

ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

A N N U A L   R E P O R T  
O F   T H E  
M E D I C A L   O F F I C E R   O F   H E A L T H  
F O R   1968

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TO THE  
CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE  
ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL  
RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

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Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to submit my report as Medical Officer of Health for the year 1968. I wish to thank the Public Health Inspector for his assistance in preparation of my report.

Yours faithfully,

JOHN R. HASSAN,

Medical Officer of Health.



REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR  
ALSTON-WITH-GARRIGILL RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL  
FOR THE YEAR 1968

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SECTION A

VITAL STATISTICS

Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area

Area .. .. . 36,571 acres

Population .. .. . 2,060

Number of inhabited houses according to the Rate Book.

Alston Ward .. .. .	550
Nenthead Ward .. .. .	183
Garrigill Ward .. .. .	131
Total	864

Rateable Value (1st April, 1968) .. .. . £48,257

Penny Rate Product .. .. . £185

COMMENT.

The vital statistics are marginally better than the previous year. The measles outbreak continued in the first trimester and it is hoped that parents will have their children inoculated against the disease with the new vaccine and so we will see the condition disappearing like diphtheria. In late Summer and Autumn there was an outbreak of coughing among children. The pattern was, that the cough lasted about six weeks, it was worst at night and there were frequent instances of vomiting and a few children lost weight. This was undoubtedly whooping cough, but because of previous protection the infection was much less severe.

The detection of cancer of the womb is now possible many years before its occurrence. There are some five hundred women in the area who should have this simple examination, but so far only about a quarter have availed themselves of the test. It is hoped to campaign intensively in this matter.

Since the war rural communities in Cumberland have seen depopulation at the rate of one per cent per annum but in the last ten years in Alston Moor there has been a greater movement than for twenty years. People are leaving; but more are coming to be resilient. The buoyancy of the economic health is well seen in the greater tourist activity, the industrial expansion and the enlightened housing programme which is well underway.

I should like to express my gratitude once more to the Chairman and Members of the Committee for their support and interest.

											1968	
<u>LIVE BIRTHS</u>											M	F
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	17	12
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	-
											29	

<u>STILL BIRTHS</u>											M	F
Legitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
Illegitimate	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
											-	

											M	F
Death of infants under 1 week of age	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
" " " " 4 weeks " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
" " " " 1 year " "	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-	-
											-	

ANNUAL BIRTH RATE per 1,000 estimated population

For this area	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.1
For Cumberland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.1
For Rural District of Cumberland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.6
For England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	16.9

<u>Deaths</u>											M	F
											13	18
											31	

ANNUAL DEATH RATE per 1,000 estimated population

For this area	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15.1
For Cumberland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	12.4
For Rural District of Cumberland	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	14.6
For England and Wales	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11.9

Deaths from Puerperal Causes	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	NIL	
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SECTION B

(1) PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS OF THE AUTHORITY

Medical Officer of Health (Part-time)  
 John R. Hassan, M.B., Ch.B., D.R.C.O.G.,  
 Cottage Hospital,  
 ALSTON

Public Health Inspector  
 R. T. Thomas, M.A.P.H.I.,  
 Town Hall,  
 ALSTON

(2) a. AMBULANCE

I am glad to report that the ambulance and sitting car service give every satisfaction in comfort warmth and speed.

b. CLINICS AND TREATMENT CENTRES

Consultant services are available at Carlisle and Newcastle. Physiotherapy is available on two mornings each week at the Cottage Hospital. Maternity and child welfare clinics are held weekly at the Cottage Hospital provided, of course, by the Cumberland County Council. The school dental clinic is held one day a fortnight at the Cottage Hospital.

It is regretted that there is now no General Dental Practitioner Service, nor is there any immediate prospect of acquiring one. I estimate that there is about two days work a week for anyone interested.

SECTION CWATER SUPPLIES

Following instructions laid down in the Ministry of Health Circular 1/69.

a) The quality of the water supplied through the water mains continues to be satisfactory, both chemically and bacteriologically, and there was no shortage during the year.

b) The Type A.H.W.M. reagent feeders are installed at Springfield, Alston.

c)	No. of dwelling houses supplied	(1)	direct to houses	703
		(2)	by standpipes	4
	No. of population supplied	(1)	direct to houses	1962
		(2)	by standpipes	9

d) Fluoride content is nil.

SEWERS AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The position is the same as last year, although the Council's Consultants have prepared a scheme to extend the sewerage disposal works and to sewer the Raise and Low Byer areas of Alston.

It is hoped that Planning and Ministerial consents are readily obtained as these extensions are of an urgent nature.

REGISTERED COMMON LODGING HOUSES

There are none in the area.

PUBLIC CLEANSING

The paper sack collection scheme for the outlying properties has proved to be very successful, and I would most certainly recommend that this system be gradually extended until the whole district operates a paper sack scheme of collection.



SANITARY POSITION OF THE AREA

Number of inspections	1.	..	..	..	..	..	..	569
Nuisances report	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Nuisances abated by informal notice	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Informal notices	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Statutory notices	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of houses inspected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	360
Number of houses disinfected	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
New houses erected (Local Authority)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
New houses erected (Privately)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	11
Plans submitted..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	20
Plans approved ..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	18
Plans - permitted development - approved	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
submitted	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Number of sewer collections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Number of water connections	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	15
Houses demolished	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-
Houses closed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	-

FACTORIES

(i) Inspection for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by the Sanitary Inspector).

<u>Premises</u>	<u>No. on register</u>	<u>No. of inspections</u>	<u>No. of written notices</u>	<u>No. of occupied properties</u>
(i) Factories in which Sec 1, 2, 3, 4, & 6 are to be enforced by Local Authority	4	4	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	12	23	-	--
(iii) Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding outworkers Premises)	-	-	-	-
	16	27	-	-

(ii) Cases in which defects were found .. .. . NIL

OFFICES SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT, 1963

The number on the Register remained at 30 and all premises were visited at least once during the year.

No notification of accident was received.

SECTION DHOUSINGa) Local Authority

Progress in this field can be reported, in that four two bedroomed flats were completed in Nenthead and a start was made on the erection of 38 dwellings at Alston, and it is hoped that six dwellings will be ready for occupation by the end of this financial year.

In the meantime, the Housing Sites Sub-Committee has been investigating the possibility of further housing sites to meet future needs.



b) Private Sector

In this sector, the past year has proved to be a record one, in that 11 bungalows were completed before 31st December, 1968 and at that time a further three were under construction.

POST WAR HOUSING

Council houses completed at the end of 1965	..	..	..	..	157
Privately owned houses	..	..	..	..	31
Estimated number of houses unfit for habitation which cannot be made fit at reasonable cost	..	..	..	..	33
Number of houses overcrowded	..	..	..	..	7
Total number of applicants for Council houses	..	..	..	..	68

IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

Number of privately owned houses for which Improvement Grants were sought	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of applicants for grants approved	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	4
Number of Improvement Grants completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Improvement Grant total (including £100 interim payment)	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1208.0.0d.

STANDARD GRANTS

Number of Standard Grant applications	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	3
Number of Standard Grant work completed	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7
Standard Grant total	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	672.2.6d.

SECTION EMILK

Number of retailers 8

Again attention is drawn to the condition of milk bottles. The public are largely to blame as often there are long delays before the empty bottles are returned to the dairyman. Also care on all sides should be taken to prevent the chipping of the necks of bottles and shipped bottles should NOT be used.

CATERING ESTABLISHMENTS

Again the various establishments have been satisfactory. They are as follows :

	Licensed Hotels	Temporance Hotels	Snack Bar	Fish and Chip Shops	TOTAL
* Alston	9	-	2	1	12
Northall	3	-	-	-	3
Garrihill	1	-	-	-	1

\* Three Hotels have till licence only

The total number of licensed premises are as under

Alston	9
Northall	3
Garrihill	1
	<u>13</u>

Premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act, 1955

Making sausage and pressed meats..	..	..	..	..	2
Premises registered for the sale of ice cream <u>only</u>	..	..	..	..	10

## RECORD OF FOOD VOLUNTARILY SURRENDERED DURING 1968

	Tins	lbs.	ozs.
Ox Tongue.	1		12
Grapefruit	22	26	2

## SECTION F

## INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES

[illegible]

Polio myelitis vaccination

	Primary	Completed	Booster
29	00	00	00
20	00	00	00
6	00	00	00

Smallpox Vaccination	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	38
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### Triple Antigen

[illegible]

CAUSE OF DEATH	Sex	Total all ages	Under 4 wks	4 weeks and under 1 year	AGE IN YEARS								
					1-4	5-14	15-24	25-34	45-54	55-64	65-74	75+	
B15(1) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - STOMACH	M	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
B15(4) MALIGNANT NEOPLASM - UTERUS	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
B19(6) OTHER MALIGNANT NEOPLASMS, ETC.	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-	-
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
B26 CHRONIC RHEUMATIC HEART DISEASE	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-	-	-
B28 ISCHEMIC HEART DISEASE	M	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	4
	F	4	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	1	1	4
B29 OTHER FORMS OF HEART DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B30 CEREBROVASCULAR DISEASE	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	4	1
	F	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46 OTHER DISEASES OF CIRCULATORY SYSTEM	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
B32 PNEUMONIA	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
	F	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1
B33(4) BRONCHITIS AND EMPHYSEMA	M	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
	F	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
B46(6) OTHER DISEASES OF RESPIRATORY SYSTEM	M	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	1
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	-
BE48 ALL OTHER ACCIDENTS	M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
	F	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1
TOTAL ALL CAUSES	M	13	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	8
	F	18	-	-	-	-	-	1	2	4	7	4	-

